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Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 03184 091519Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----------007208 091521Z /53
O R 091430Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8241
INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 3184

EXDIS

DEPT FOR A/SY/DASS, A/SY/OPS/FO; NAIROBI FOR RSS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC
SUBJ: MELOY/WARING/MOGRABI ASSASSINATIONS

REF: (A) STATE 141823, (B) BEIRUT 3889, (C) BEIRUT 3057

1. AP CORRESPONDENT KRIMSKY INTERVIEWED RSO AND PAO ON JUNE 6, 1978. ALTHOUGH SOME PART OF INTERVIEW WAS DEVOTED TO AWADAH CONNECTION TO MELOY MURDER, THE MAJORITY OF THE INTERVIEW WAS DEVOTED TO REVIEW OF THE EVENTS OF JUNE 16, 1976. RSO AND PAO BASED THEIR RESPONSES ON INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE REPORT OF THE HEARINGS BEFORE THE SPECIAL SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATION, JULY 27, 1976.

2. KRIMSKY DISCUSSED THE PROS/CONS OF THE TWO BASIC THEORIES OF THE ASSASSINATION: 1) CONSPIRACY INVOLVING THE DRIVER ZOHAIR MOGRABI AND 2) THAT CHANCE ENCOUNTER THEORY THAT MAY OR MAY NOT HAVE INVOLVED AWADAH. RSO AND PAO WERE NONCOMMITTAL SAYING THAT WE ARE AWARE OF THESE TWO THEORIES BUT OUR INVESTIGATION HAS NOT REACHED A CONCLUSION.

3. KRIMSKY INDICATED HE PLANS TO DO AN ANNIVERSARY PIECE ON
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PAGE 02 BEIRUT 03184 091519Z

JUNE 16 ON THE THEME OF WHERE ARE WE NOW. HE PLAND TO INTERVIEW THE LEBANESE CHIEF PROSECUTOR AND MEMBERS OF THE MOGRABI FAMILY.

4. SUBSEQUENT TO THE KRIMSKY INTERVIEW, RSO BECAME AWARE THAT AT LEAST ONE OTHER BEIRUT PUBLICATION, MIDDLE EAST REPORTER, PLANS TO DO A SIMILAR ANNIVERSARY ARTICLE. THE ANNIVERSARY

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IS BOUND TO GENERATE SIMILAR ARTICLES, PARTICULARLY SINCE AP'S
INTEREST IS KNOWN.

5. OUR GUIDELINES WILL CONTINUE TO BE THAT THE INVESTIGATION
IS CONTINUING AND NO CONCLUSION HAS BEEN REACHED.
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